-continued

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1-15. (canceled)

- 16. Draxin-binding peptide comprising (i) at least 20 consecutive amino acids from the sequence KACDCHPV-GAAGKTCNQTTGQCPCKDGVTGITCNRCANGY-QQSRSP IAPCIKIPIAPP (SEQ ID NO.: 51) or (ii) a variant thereof having a sequence identity of at least 70%, at least 80%, at least 85%, at least 90%, or at least 95% to SEQ ID NO.: 51; wherein said peptide has a length of up to 580 amino acids and is optionally fused to a heterologous peptide or polypeptide.
- 17. The peptide according to claim 16, wherein said peptide comprises a sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO.: 45, SEQ ID NO.: 48, a peptide corresponding to SEQ ID NO.: 45 or SEQ ID NO.: 48 from another species, or a variant thereof having a sequence identity of at least 50%, at least 60%, at least 70%, at least 80%, at least 95% thereto.
- **18**. The peptide according to claim **16**, which is fused to a heterologous peptide or polypeptide.
- 19. The peptide according to claim 16, in combination with a carrier suitable for use in medicine.
- **20**. The peptide according to claim **16**, wherein said variant contains at least one non-naturally occurring substitution modification relative to SEQ ID NO.:51.
- 21. The peptide according to claim 18, wherein said peptide is fused to a functional fragment of an immuno-
- 22. The peptide according to claim 21, wherein said functional fragment of an immunoglobulin (Ig) is an Ig Fc fragment.
- 23. The peptide according to claim 22, wherein said Ig Fc fragment is a human Ig Fc fragment.
- **24**. The peptide according to claim **23**, wherein said human Ig Fc fragment is a human IgG Fc fragment.
- **25**. A method for treating a condition associated with, accompanied by or mediated by pathologic, decreased, γ-Netrin expression or activity, or for treating a condition associated with, accompanied by or mediated by pathologic, increased, Draxin expression or activity, comprising admini-

- istering a draxin-binding peptide comprising (i) at least 20 consecutive amino acids from the sequence KACDCHPV-GAAGKTCNQTTGQCPCKD GVTGITCNRCANGY-QQSRSP IAPCIKIPIAPP (SEQ ID NO.: 51) or (ii) a variant thereof having a sequence identity of at least 70%, at least 80%, at least 85%, at least 90%, or at least 95% to SEQ ID NO.: 51, which is optionally fused to a heterologous peptide or polypeptide,
- **26**. The method according to claim **25**, wherein said peptide has a length of up to 500, up to 400, up to 300, up to 250, up to 200, up to 150, up to 100, up to 75 or up to 60 amino acids.
- 27. The method according to claim 25, wherein said peptide comprises at least 20, at least 30, at least 40 or at least 50 consecutive amino acids from SEQ ID NO.:51 or the complete SEQ ID NO.:51, or a variant thereof having a sequence identity of at least 70%, at least 80%, at least 85%, at least 90%, or at least 95% to SEQ ID NO.: 51.
- 28. The method according to claim 25, wherein said condition is a cardiovascular disease, which is selected from the group consisting of ischemia/reperfusion (I/R) injury; myocardial infarction; mitochondrial damage; neointimal formation and restenosis; vascular injury or vascular dysfunction; vascular smooth muscle cell migration and proliferation; apoptosis of endothelial progenitor cells, procure induced restenosis; and hypertension.
- **29**. The method according to claim **25**, wherein said peptide is administered as an active agent in a pharmaceutical composition together with at least one pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.
- 30. The method according to claim 25, further comprising administering at least one additional therapeutically active agent, wherein the additional therapeutically active agent is selected from the group consisting of decoy Netrin receptors, cytostatic agents, cytotoxic agents, statins, antihyperlipidemic agents, anti-coagulant agents, kinase inhibitors and angiogenesis modulators.
- 31. The method according to claim 28, wherein said ischemia/reperfusion (I/R) injury is selected from the group